

Nashville Union.

S. C. MURKIN, EDITOR.

CONFISCATION ACT.

[PUBLIC—No. 160.]
AN ACT TO SUPPRESS INSURRECTION, TO PUNISH TREASON AND REBELLION, TO SEIZE AND CONFISCATE THE PROPERTY OF REBELS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, THAT every person who shall hereafter commit the crime of treason against the United States, or who shall in any way give aid or comfort thereto, escaping from such persons and taking refuge within the lines of the army; and all slaves captured from such persons or deserted by them and coming under the control of the Government of the United States, and all slaves of such persons found on [or] being within any place occupied by rebel forces and afterwards occupied by the forces of the United States, shall be deemed captives of war, and shall be forever free of their servitude, and not again held as slaves.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That no slave escaping into any State, Territory or the District of Columbia, from any other State, shall be delivered up, or in any way impeded or hindered of his liberty, except for crime, or some offense against the laws, unless the person claiming said fugitive shall first make oath that the person to whom the labor or service of such fugitive is alleged to be due is his lawful owner, and has not borne arms against the United States in the present rebellion, nor in any way given aid and comfort thereto, and no person engaged in the military or naval service of the United States shall, under any pretence whatever, assume to decide on the validity of the claim of any person to the service or labor of any other person, or surrender up any such person to the claimants, on pain of being dismissed from the service."

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That if any person guilty of either of the offenses described in this act shall be forever incapable and disqualifed to hold any office under the United States.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That this act shall not be construed in any way to affect or alter the prosecution, conviction, or punishment of any person or persons guilty of treason against the United States before the passage of this act, unless such person is convicted under the laws of the United States.

Sec. 5. And be it further enacted, That to ensure the speedy termination of the present rebellion, it shall be the duty of the President of the United States to hereby authorize to make provision for the transportation, colonization, and settlement, in some tropical country beyond the limits of the United States, of such persons of African race, made free by the provisions of this act, as may be willing to emigrate, having first obtained the consent of the Government of said country to their protection and settlement within the same, with all the rights and privileges of freemen.

Sec. 6. And be it further enacted, That the President is hereby authorized, at any time hereafter, by proclamation to extend to persons who may have participated in the existing rebellion in any State or part thereof, pardon and amnesty, with such exceptions and at such time and on such conditions as he may deem expedient for the public welfare.

Sec. 7. And be it further enacted, That the President, Vice-President, member of Congress, judge of any court, cabinet officer, foreign minister, commissioners or consul of the so-called Confederate States of America.

Thirdly. Of any person acting as Governor of a State, member of a Convention or Legislature, or judge of any court of any of the so-called Confederate States of America.

Fourthly. Of any person who, having held an office of honor, trust or profit in the United States, shall hereafter hold an office in the so-called Confederate States of America.

Fifthly. Of any person heretofore holding an office or agency under the so-called Confederate States of America, or under any of the several states of the said Confederacy, or the laws thereof, whether such office or agency be national, state, or municipal in its name or character: Provided, That the persons thirdly, fourthly and fifthly above described shall have accepted their appointment or election since the date of the pretended ordinance of secession of the State, or shall have taken an oath of allegiance to, or to support the Constitution of, the so-called Confederate States.

Sixthly. Of any person who, owning property in any loyal State or Territory of the United States, or in the District of Columbia, shall hereafter assist and give aid and comfort to such rebellion; and all sales, transfers, or conveyances of any such property shall be null and void; and it shall be a sufficient bar to any suit brought by such person for the possession or use of such property, or any of it, to allege and prove that he is one of the persons described in this section.

Sec. 8. And be it further enacted, That if any person within any State or Territory of the United States other than those named as aforesaid, after the passage of this act, being engaged in armed rebellion against the Government of the United States, or aiding or abetting such rebellion, shall not, within sixty days after public warning and proclamation duly given and made by the President of the United States, cease to aid, countenance, and abet such rebellion, and return to his allegiance to the United States, all the estate and property, monies, stocks and credits of such person shall be liable to seizure as aforesaid, and it shall be the duty of the President to seize and use them as aforesaid, or the proceeds thereof.

And all sales, transfers, or conveyances of any such property after the expiration of the said sixty days from the date of such warning and proclamation, shall be null and void; and it shall be a sufficient bar to any suit brought by such person for the possession or use of such property, or any of it, to allege and prove that he is one of the persons described in this section.

Sec. 9. And be it further enacted, That to secure the condemnation and sale of any such property, after the same shall have been seized, so that it may be made available for the purposes aforesaid, proceedings in rem shall be instituted in the name of the United States in any district court thereof, or in any Territorial court, or in the United States district court for the District of Columbia, within which the property above described, or any part thereof, may be found, or into which the same, if movable, may first be brought, which proceedings shall conform as nearly as may be to proceedings in admiralty or revenue cases, and said property, whether real or personal, shall be found to have belonged to a person engaged in rebellion, or who has given aid or comfort thereto, the same shall be condemned as enemies' property, and become the property of the United States, and may be disposed of as the court shall decree, and the proceeds thereof paid into the Treasury of the United States for the purposes aforesaid.

Sec. 10. And be it further enacted, That the several courts aforesaid shall have power to make such orders, establish such forms of decree and sale, and direct such deeds and conveyances as may be executed and delivered by the marshals

thereof where real estate shall be subject to sale, as shall fully and efficiently effect the purposes of this act, and vest in the purchasers of such property good and valid titles thereto. And the said courts shall have power to allow such fees and charges of their officers as shall be reasonable and proper in the premises.

Sec. 11. And be it further enacted, That all slaves of persons who shall hereafter be engaged in the rebellion against the Government of the United States, or who shall in any way give aid or comfort thereto, escaping from such persons and taking refuge within the lines of the army; and all slaves captured from such persons or deserted by them and coming under the control of the Government of the United States, and all slaves of such persons found on [or] being within any place occupied by rebel forces and afterwards occupied by the forces of the United States, shall be deemed captives of war, and shall be forever free of their servitude, and not again held as slaves.

Sec. 12. And be it further enacted, That no slave escaping into any State, Territory or the District of Columbia, from any other State, shall be delivered up, or in any way impeded or hindered of his liberty, except for crime, or some offense against the laws, unless the person claiming said fugitive shall first make oath that the person to whom the labor or service of such fugitive is alleged to be due is his lawful owner, and has not borne arms against the United States in the present rebellion, nor in any way given aid and comfort thereto, and no person engaged in the military or naval service of the United States shall, under any pretence whatever, assume to decide on the validity of the claim of any person to the service or labor of any other person, or surrender up any such person to the claimants, on pain of being dismissed from the service."

Sec. 13. And be it further enacted, That the President will be greatly obliged to persons making up clubs for the Union if they will remit to the publishers and not to himself. Communications and subscriptions are sometimes mixed up with private information in such a manner as to cause needless delay and trouble to all parties.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted at the great State Union Convention held in this city May 12, 1862:

Resolved, That we recognize in the NASHVILLE UNION an able exponent of the principles of the Union men of Tennessee, and we earnestly recommend it as well deserving of the patronage of Union men everywhere:

To Correspondents.

Our correspondents must allow us to take our own time for reading their communications. We have no time to be read to. It is literally impossible.

Please Notice.

We have no time to transcribe communications. We sometimes receive communications with a scrap of confidential information written on the back of the manuscript. Of course if we use the manuscript we have to re-write it, and this imposes entirely too much labor on us. We have no time for such work.

Notice to Club-makers.

The editor will be greatly obliged to persons making up clubs for the Union if they will remit to the publishers and not to himself. Communications and subscriptions are sometimes mixed up with private information in such a manner as to cause needless delay and trouble to all parties.

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PROSPECTUS

OF THE NASHVILLE UNION.

THE NASHVILLE UNION was commenced a few weeks ago, for the purpose of opposing the Rebel Southern Confederacy, and of advancing the recognition of Federal authority, without any abatement, over all the States which have attempted to secede. It holds itself aloof from all supporters of the rebels who have not yet been captured.

It is the only paper in the Union that has no sympathy with the rebels, and is engaged in their destruction.

With regard to the conduct of the rebels, we are uncompromising.

With regard to the Constitution and the Laws made in pursuance thereof, we are the strictest.

With regard to the Union, we are the most zealous.

With regard to the slaves, we are uncompromising.

With regard to the slaves, we are uncomprom